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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2010-37

Boscalid

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of new uses on a number of leafy vegetable commodities to the product label of Pristine WG Fungicide, containing technical grade boscalid, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of Pristine WG Fungicide, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 27985.

The evaluation of this boscalid application indicated that the end-use product has merit and value and that the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable. Details regarding the registration can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Report that is available in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website, under Public Registry, Pesticide Product Information Database.[1]

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

An MRL of 1.0 ppm is currently established for all Crop Group 4 leafy vegetable commodities to cover potential residues in these crops when planted in rotation to crops previously treated with boscalid. MRLs for the leafy vegetables listed herein are proposed for revision to accommodate potential residues following direct treatment of the crops with boscalid. The existing MRL remains in effect for all Crop Group 4A leafy green vegetable commodities not included in this action.

Consultation on the proposed MRLs for boscalid is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document).

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRLs is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

[1] The relevant report can be accessed by selecting the Programs and Special Actions/Minor Use/Historical tab and opening the Evaluation Report found under Application Number 2009-2150.

The proposed MRLs for boscalid in Canada in or on food, to replace the corresponding MRLs already legally established, are as follows:

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Boscalid

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Boscalid	2-chloro-*N*-(4'-chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide	60*	New Zealand spinach, spinach, vine spinach
		45*	Cardoon, celery, celtuce, Chinese celery, fresh Florence fennel leaves and stalks, rhubarb, Swiss chard

* The MRL is proposed to replace the currently established 1.0 ppm MRL for the listed leafy vegetable commodities.

A complete list of all MRLs established in Canada can be found on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

International Situation and Trade Implications

The proposed MRLs for boscalid in Canada are the same as tolerances established for the corresponding crop subgroups in the United States (tolerances listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide). Currently, a Codex[2] MRL has not been established for boscalid on any commodity included in this action. A listing of all established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website.

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for boscalid up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRLs for boscalid and posting a corresponding Established Maximum Residue Limit document in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

[2] Codex is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.